

REMARKS

Amendment

The specification has been amended to correct an obvious error.

Claims 1-41 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 42-61 are newly presented. Support for these claims is set forth in the table below:

Claim number	Location for support in original disclosure
42	Page 11, lines 11-15
43	Page 7, line 10
44	Page 7, lines 10-16
45	Page 8, line 16
46	Page 8, line 20
47	Page 8, line 16
48	Page 8, line 25
49	Page 9, line 5
50	Page 8, lines 13-14
51	Page 11, lines 7-10
52	Page 11, lines 7-10
53	Page 11, lines 5-6
54	Original claim 32
55	Page 11, lines 19-24
56	Page 10, lines 8-10
57	Page 11, line 29
58	Page 5, lines 1-3
59	Page 4, lines 27-30
60	Page 5, line 4
61	Page 5, line 2

Election/Restrictions

Claims 1-41 are pending in the application and are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

According to the Restriction Requirement, election/restriction to one of the following groups is required:

- I. Claims 21-24, 37-41, drawn to peptone mixtures and compositions thereof.
- II. Claims 1-20, 25-36, drawn to methods for processing a protein-containing material.

Applicants hereby elect Group II, Claims 1-20, 25-36, drawn to methods for processing a protein-containing material, without traverse.

Election of Species

According to the Restriction Requirement, election to a species for each of the following groups is required:

- I. Protein material: a specific protein material should be identified from those recited generically in claim 1. For example, claims 3-4 recite species of protein material.
- II. Alkaline material: a specific alkaline material should be identified from those recited generically in claim 1. For example, claim 5 recites a species of alkaline material.

Applicants hereby elect the protein material species of poultry feathers, and more specifically turkey feathers, with traverse. Method claims readable therein for purposes of this election are claims 42-57. Product-by-process claims readable thereon are claims 58-61.

Applicants hereby elect the alkaline material species of sodium hydroxide, with traverse. Method claims readable therein for purposes of this election are claims 42-57. Product-by-process claims readable thereon are claims 58-61.

Examination of all species together is respectfully requested. In view of the substantial commonality of the subject matter of all of the disclosed species of the present application, the search for one specie will necessitate a search of the subject matter of the other species. No substantial burden is therefore seen in consideration of all species in a single application. Further, examination of all species in a single application provides efficiency in early determination of the full scope of patent protection to be afforded in this technology, which is of great benefit to the public.

Applicants additionally respectfully request examination of product-by-process claims 58-61 with the elected method claims.

Conclusion

In view of the above election and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the foregoing is fully responsive to the outstanding Restriction Requirement and requirement for Election of Species. Examination of all claims together, and early favorable consideration and passage of the above application to issue is earnestly solicited. In the event that a phone conference between the Examiner and the Applicant's undersigned attorney would help resolve any issues in the application, the Examiner is invited to contact said attorney at (651) 275-9811.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: November 3, 2008

By: 

Dale A. Bjorkman, Reg. No. 33,084
Phone: 651-275-9811
Fax: 651-351-2954

Kagan Binder, PLLC
Suite 200 Maple Island Building
221 Main Street North
Stillwater, MN 55082
48423